

VCU refusal to see trans patients under 19 action guide

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Health has stopped providing gender-affirming care to people under 19 because of a new executive order from Trump that bans federal funding for these treatments, calling them “chemical and surgical mutilation.”

The order gives federal agencies 60 days to start pulling funds from places that keep offering this care, so VCU likely made this move to avoid losing money. The Attorney General of Virginia also supports this ban, adding more pressure on institutions like VCU.

Advocacy groups are speaking out, saying this decision puts trans youth at serious risk, especially since VCU helps thousands of people in the state. VCU hasn't said much publicly, but their actions suggest they're trying to stay ahead of any funding cuts.

Sources:

<https://www.wvtf.org/news/2025-01-30/vcu-clinic-begins-to-comply-with-trumps-transgender-healthcare-ban-on-those-under-19>

<https://apnews.com/article/trump-transgender-order-passports-prisons-military-3c14ecbdd10f61618384e81624d090fb>

<https://www.verywellhealth.com/executive-order-to-restrict-gender-affirming-care-8782360>

What do we do about it? Call & email our representatives. They work for us.

The VA legislature is currently in session and we have a chance to make our voices heard and to pressure our lawmakers to retaliate against this unlawful attack.

*2/2 edit, we will also target VCU Health Board of Directors, see updated scripts.

Calling is the most impactful thing you can do to get the attention of lawmakers. According to [PIRG](#), everyday your representatives and their senior staff get a report of the 3 most called about topics, sorted by zip code.

Essentially, calls and voice have much more weight than emails. I know that calling can feel intimidating, but we are at the beginning of something much bigger—this is how fascism takes hold. There will be many more battles ahead, and getting on the phone is a comparatively small but crucial step.

Push past the discomfort and make the call. Lawmakers need to hear from you directly. Do it with friends if you need. Use the phone script I provided. Take a deep breath, dial the number, and speak up. This is how we fight back.

Phone Script for Elected Officials

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I am a resident of [Your City/County].

I am calling today because I am outraged by VCU Health's unlawful decision to deny gender-affirming care to trans youth under 19, citing Trump's executive order. This is an outright attack on trans people and an abdication of their duty as a public hospital.

There is **no legal basis** for VCU to deny care to trans youth, and it is your job as an elected official to stop this discrimination against your constituents. Trans healthcare is lifesaving healthcare, and every major medical association agrees. Allowing VCU to cave to political pressure and fearmongering puts lives at risk.

I demand that you take immediate action to ensure that VCU reverses this decision and upholds its duty to provide care to all Virginians, including trans youth. I will be watching closely to see how you respond.

Will you commit to addressing this issue and holding VCU accountable?

(Wait for a response—if they evade or give a non-answer, press them: **"I need to know what specific actions you will take to ensure trans youth in Virginia get the healthcare they need."**)

Thank you for your time. I expect to see action.

List of RVA Rep contacts*

[*Use this link to find the Reps of your county](#)

State Delegate

Betsy B. Carr

District: 78

Party: D

Capitol Phone: (804) 698-1078

District Phone: (804) 698-1078

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State Senator (He's also a VCU Health board member, light up his phone line!!)

Lamont Bagby

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Party: D

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(202) 225-6365

U.S. Senator

Tim Kaine

PHONE: (804) 771-2221

[this website link has a comments box](#)

Party: D

U.S. Senator

Mark R. Warner

Party: D

Phone: 202-224-2023

[This link has an email contact page](#)

Phone numbers of House Members

Anthony, Bonita G.	92nd	1002	D	(804) 698-1092 (757) 204-5492
Arnold, Jonathan E.	46th	802	R	(804) 698-1046 (276) 783-8197
Askew, Alex Q.	95th	920	D	(804) 698-1095 (757) 453-3168
Austin, Terry L.	37th	708	R	(804) 698-1037 (540) 254-1500
Ballard, Jason S.	42nd	805	R	(804) 698-1042 (540) 787-5011
Batten, Amanda E.	71st	712	R	(804) 698-1071 (757) 741-7001
Bennett-Parker, Elizabeth B.	5th	1105	D	(804) 698-1005 (703) 239-3155
Bloxom, Robert S., Jr.	100th	711	R	(804) 698-1000 (757) 824-3456
Bulova, David L.	11th	909	D	(804) 698-1011 (703) 310-6752
Callsen, Katrina E.	54th	901	D	(804) 698-1054 (434) 443-5400
Campbell, Ellen H.	36th	803	R	(804) 698-1036 (540) 280-0778
Carr, Betsy B.	78th	1110	D	(804) 698-1078 (804) 698-1078
Cherry, Mike A.	74th	706	R	(804) 698-1074 (804) 946-1221
Clark, Nadarius E.	84th	820	D	(804) 698-1084 (757) 839-4758
Cohen, Laura Jane	15th	821	D	(804) 698-1015 (703) 261-9171
Cole, Joshua G.	65th	1020	D	(804) 698-1065 (540) 642-0165

Convirs-Fowler, Kelly K.	96th	912	D	(804) 698-1096 (757) 364-8428
Cordoza, A.C.	86th	719	R	(804) 698-1086 (757) 751-0929
Cousins, Rae C.	79th	917	D	(804) 698-1079 (804) 698-1079
Coyner, Carrie E.	75th	710	R	(804) 698-1075 (804) 698-1075
Davis, Will P.	39th	717	R	(804) 698-1039 (540) 963-5221
Delaney, Karrie K.	9th	1112	D	(804) 698-1009 (703) 996-9415
Earley, Mark L., Jr.	73rd	701	R	(804) 698-1073 (804) 698-1173
Ennis, N. Baxter	89th	817	R	(804) 698-1089 (757) 354-3751
Feggans, Michael	97th	1104	D	(804) 698-1097 (757) 204-1524
Fowler, Hyland F. (Buddy), Jr.	59th	1108	R	(804) 698-1059 (804) 227-3177
Freitas, Nicholas J.	62nd	716	R	(804) 698-1062 (540) 222-7706
Gardner, Debra D.	76th	921	D	(804) 698-1076 (804) 698-1076
Garrett, Thomas A., Jr.	56th	720	R	(804) 698-1056 (804) 869-4444
Gilbert, C. Todd	33rd	1401	R	(804) 698-1033 (540) 459-7550
Glass, Jackie Hope	93rd	1011	D	(804) 698-1093 (757) 472-1293
Green, W. Chad, Sr.	69th	816	R	(804) 698-1069 (757) 219-2081

Griffin, Timothy P.	53rd	702	R	(804) 698-1053 (434) 515-1752
Hayes, C. E. (Cliff), Jr.	91st	1111	D	(804) 698-1091 (757) 364-0272
Helmer, Dan	10th	1013	D	(804) 698-1010 (571) 445-0251
Henson, Rozia A., Jr.	19th	818	D	(804) 698-1019 (804) 698-1019
Hernandez, Phil M.	94th	1103	D	(804) 698-1094 (804) 698-1094
Herring, Charniele L.	4th	1402	D	(804) 698-1004 (703) 606-9705
Higgins, Geary M.	30th	721	R	(804) 698-1030 (804) 698-1030
Hodges, M. Keith	68th	810	R	(804) 698-1068 (804) 277-9801
Hope, Patrick A.	1st	709	D	(804) 698-1001 (703) 486-1010
Jones, Michael J.	77th	916	D	(804) 698-1077 (804) 698-1077
Kent, Hillary Pugh	67th	1018	R	(804) 698-1067 (804) 456-8360
Keys-Gamarra, Karen	7th	1001	D	(804) 698-1007 (804) 698-1007
Kilgore, Terry G.	45th	1007	R	(804) 698-1045 (276) 386-7011
Knight, Barry D.	98th	809	R	(804) 698-1098 (757) 426-6387
Krizek, Paul E.	16th	1010	D	(804) 698-1016 (703) 688-2983
Laufer, Amy J.	55th	1021	D	(804) 698-1055 (540) 251-4603

Leftwich, James A. (Jay), Jr.	90th	1008	R	(804) 698-1090 (757) 382-4145
LeVere Bolling, Destiny L.	80th	1101	D	(804) 698-1080 (804) 698-1180
Lopez, Alfonso H.	3rd	1014	D	(804) 698-1003 (571) 336-2147
Lovejoy, Ian T.	22nd	918	R	(804) 698-1022 (571) 774-4322
Maldonado, Michelle Lopes	20th	819	D	(804) 698-1020
Marshall, Daniel W., III	49th	807	R	(804) 698-1049 (434) 797-5861
Martinez, Fernando J.	29th	904	D	(804) 698-1029 (804) 698-1029
McClure, Adele Y.	2nd	1102	D	(804) 698-1002 (703) 239-4425
McNamara, Joseph P.	40th	813	R	(804) 698-1040 (540) 384-0276
McQuinn, Delores L.	81st	914	D	(804) 698-1081 (804) 698-1081
Milde, Paul V., III	64th	1003	R	(804) 698-1064 (703) 728-2828
Morefield, James W. (Will)	43rd	808	R	(804) 698-1043 (276) 345-4300
Mundon King, Candi	23rd	906	D	(804) 698-1023 (540) 227-0836
Oates, Delores	31st	703	R	(804) 698-1031 (804) 698-1031
Obenshain, Chris	41st	804	R	(804) 698-1041 (804) 647-0372
O'Quinn, Israel D.	44th	713	R	(804) 698-1044 (276) 525-1311
Orrock, Robert D., Sr.	66th	1107	R	(804) 698-1066 (540) 891-1322

Owen, David L.	57th	718	R	(804) 698-1057 (804) 372-0290
Phillips, Eric J.	48th	1004	R	(804) 698-1048 (434) 326-5878
Price, Marcia S. (Cia)	85th	911	D	(804) 698-1085 (757) 266-5935
Rasoul, Sam	38th	910	D	(804) 698-1038 (540) 904-6905
Reaser, Atoosa R.	27th	1016	D	(804) 698-1027
Reid, David A.	28th	913	D	(804) 698-1028 (703) 662-1395
Runion, Chris	35th	811	R	(804) 698-1035 (540) 255-0504
Scott, Don	88th	1403	D	(804) 698-1088 (757) 966-7914
Scott, Phillip A.	63rd	919	R	(804) 698-1063 (540) 360-3789
Seibold, Holly M.	12th	902	D	(804) 698-1012 (804) 698-1012
Sewell, Briana D.	25th	905	D	(804) 698-1025 (703) 261-4787
Shin, Irene	8th	1115	D	(804) 698-1008 (703) 677-8334
Sickles, Mark D.	17th	1232	D	(804) 698-1017 (703) 922-6440
Simon, Marcus B.	13th	1114	D	(804) 698-1013 (571) 327-0053
Simonds, Shelly A.	70th	1106	D	(804) 698-1070 (757) 276-3022
Singh, J J	26th	1017	D	(804) 698-1026

Sullivan, Richard C. (Rip), Jr.	6th	908	D	(804) 698-1006 (571) 210-5876
Tata, Anne Ferrell H.	99th	1019	R	(804) 698-1099 (757) 213-5193
Taylor, Kimberly A.	82nd	1005	R	(804) 698-1082
Thomas, Josh	21st	903	D	(804) 698-1021
Torian, Luke E.	24th	1223	D	(804) 698-1024 (703) 785-2224
Tran, Kathy KL	18th	1113	D	(804) 698-1018 (703) 539-2066
Wachsmann, Howard Otto, Jr.	83rd	704	R	(804) 698-1083 (804) 469-0872
Walker, Wendell S.	52nd	812	R	(804) 698-1052 (434) 515-2264
Ward, Jeion A.	87th	1009	D	(804) 698-1087 (757) 827-5921
Ware, R. Lee	72nd	707	R	(804) 698-1072 (804) 598-6696
Watts, Vivian E.	14th	907	D	(804) 698-1014 (703) 978-2989
Webert, Michael J.	61st	714	R	(804) 698-1061 (540) 999-8218
Wiley, William D. (Bill)	32nd	1006	R	(804) 698-1032 (804) 698-1032
Willett, Rodney T.	58th	1012	D	(804) 698-1058
Williams, Wren M.	47th	705	R	(804) 698-1047 (276) 200-4089
Wilt, Tony O.	34th	814	R	(804) 698-1034 (540) 208-0735

Wright, Thomas C., Jr. 50th 1109 R (804) 698-1050 (434) 696-3061

Wyatt, Scott A. 60th 806 R (804) 698-1060 (804) 442-2737

Zehr, Eric 51st 801 R (804) 698-1051 (434) 515-1189

Phone Script for VCU Board of Directors members

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I am calling because I am outraged by VCU Health's decision to deny gender-affirming care to trans youth under 19.

This decision is not only medically unethical but also legally baseless. Citing a Trump-era executive order as an excuse is misleading and cowardly. As a public institution, VCU Health has a duty to provide necessary, evidence-based care—not to cave to political pressure or fear.

Every major medical organization, including the AMA and AAP, agrees that gender-affirming care is lifesaving. By denying this care, VCU is putting trans youth at risk of harm, violating its own commitment to healthcare equity, and betraying the trust of the community it serves.

As a member of the Board of Directors, **you are directly responsible for this decision.** I demand that you take immediate action to reverse this dangerous and discriminatory policy. The people of Virginia will not stand by while public institutions deny essential medical care based on political fearmongering.

What steps are you taking to ensure trans youth at VCU Health receive the care they need?

(Wait for a response. If they deflect, press them: **"You have the power to change this. Will you commit to reversing this harmful decision?"**)

Thank you for your time. I expect real action, not silence.

List of VCU Health Board of Directors Member Contacts

State Senator (He's also a VCU Health board member, light up his phone line!!)

Lamont Bagby

District: 14

Party: D

Capitol Phone: (804) 698-7514

District Phone: (804) 698-7514

senatorbagby@senate.virginia.gov

Hem Bhardwaj, M.D.

Associate Professor

School of Medicine Internal Medicine

(804) 828-9987

Diana F. Cantor Partner, Alternative Investment Management, LLC (she's on the board of directors of several franchises, ask to leave her a message & annoy her lines at all 3)

(804) 254-3789

212.202.1810

(212) 557-6191

Steven DeLuca Vice President, Head of State & Local Government Affairs Capital One Financial

(found 2 numbers, reach out to svprather94@gmail.com if they don't work)

(703) 720-1000

804-787-1515

Laurence DiNardo, M.D., F.A.C.S.

(804) 828-2785

George Emerson Founder, CEO

(206) 684-7999

(804) 530-4614

The Honorable Peter Farrell Managing Partner, Tuckahoe Holdings

(804) 644-6000

Ellen M. Fitzsimmons

(314) 621-3222

Richard R. Grinnan

If you are going to email, I advise that you make it a daily habit for it to make an impact/ annoy reps. Wake up, have a coffee, copy paste email, copy paste. Or, don't think about it at all and just automate them, [how to link here](#).

Below is a copy/paste email you can use, or I encourage you to write your own in your own voice. Use AI if you have to.

When emailing, just write/ paste one email and blind copy as many reps as you can from the below contact lists.

"Bcc" in your "to" bar is blind copy, meaning one email goes to all recipients without them knowing it went to many recipients. They can only see it as received from you, the sender.

Don't forget to put your own name and city before sending the email!! I highlighted it for you to change.

Copy-Paste Email to Lawmakers

Subject: Demand Action Against VCU's Unlawful Denial of Trans Healthcare

Hello,

I am writing as a constituent deeply outraged by VCU Health's decision to deny gender-affirming care to trans youth under 19, citing Trump's executive order that does **not** legally require them to do so. This is an unacceptable attack on trans people and a violation of their duty as a public hospital.

Every major medical association affirms that gender-affirming care is **medically necessary and lifesaving**. VCU's refusal to provide it puts trans youth at direct risk and sets a dangerous precedent for discrimination in healthcare.

It is **your responsibility** as an elected official to stop this blatant discrimination against your constituents. I demand that you take immediate action to:

- **Hold VCU accountable** and ensure they reinstate trans youth healthcare immediately.
- **Publicly condemn** this discriminatory decision.
- **Push for legislative or legal action** to prevent hospitals from refusing essential care to trans people.

I will be watching closely to see what steps you take to protect trans youth in Virginia. Silence or inaction is complicity.

I expect your response and, more importantly, your action.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your City/County]

List of RVA Rep contacts*

[*Use this link to find the Reps of your county](#)

State Delegate

Betsy B. Carr

District: 78

Party: D

Capitol Phone: (804) 698-1078

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U.S. Congress

Jennifer L. McClellan

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info.clerkweb@mail.house.gov

(202) 225-6365

U.S. Senator

Tim Kaine

PHONE: (804) 771-2221

[this website link has a comments box](#)

Party: D

U.S. Senator

Mark R. Warner

Party: D

Phone: 202-224-2023

[This link has an email contact page](#)

complete list of VA senator's emails

senatoraird@senate.virginia.gov

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senatorwilliamsgraves@senate.virginia.gov

complete list of house members

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